

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-24 are pending and are subject to restriction.

The Examiner has restricted the application under 35 U.S.C. §121 to one of Groups I, II and III. (Paper 041304, page 2).

The Examiner has further restricted the application under 35 U.S.C. §121 to one of Species A, B, C and D. (Paper 041304, page 3).

Applicant has elected Group I drawn to Claims 1-10, and Claims 1-10 directed to the invention of Species C, with traverse. Applicant considers Claim 1 to be a generic claim readable upon Figures 2, and 4-6.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Election / Restriction requirement for the following reasons:

Applicant has canceled Claim 11, has added new Claim 25 to depend from Claim 1, and has amended Claims 12, 13 and 15, to depend from Claim 25. In this regard, Applicant submits that Claim 25 is a linking claim between the invention of original Group I and the invention of original Group II. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that at least Claims 1-10, 12-18 and 25, be considered for examination purposes.

The Examiner alleges that, "In the instant case, the combination I as claimed does not require the particulars of a headrest of subcombination II and detecting the amount of light of subcombination III." (Paper 041304, page 3).

In view of the claim amendments, Applicant submits that the invention of amended Group I now includes a headrest, as recited in Claim 25, and includes structure for detecting the amount of light shining through the windows of the vehicle and onto the face of a vehicle occupant, as evidenced by the light detecting apparatus for detecting sunlight incident upon the face of an occupant of the vehicle, which is recited in Claim 1.

In view of Claim 1 being an independent and generic claim, Claim 25 being a linking claim between the inventions of original Group I and original Group II, and the invention of amended Group I having the noted particulars of the invention of original Group III, Applicant respectfully submits that a restriction requirement between Groups I,

II and III, for examination purposes is improper.

Regarding the restriction requirement to one of Species A, B, C and D, Applicant has elected Species C with traverse, for at least all of the reasons stated earlier. Applicant considers amended Claims 1-10, 12-18 and 25, to be readable upon Figures 2-6.

For at least these reasons, this Restriction Requirement is wholeheartedly traversed, and removal of the Requirement, at least with respect to the improper groupings noted above, is respectfully requested.

Consideration and allowance of these claims are respectfully requested. The foregoing is believed to be fully responsive to this office action.

If there are any charges with respect to this amendment, or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,
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